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GENERAL

## Vietnam

Despite recent heavy blows, Hanoi apparently is determined to keep a fighter force in the air against US attacks.

During the past three days, pilot reports have indicated an unusually high number of North Vietnamese MIGs in aggressive intercept activity. On 7 November an F-105 was hit by an airto-air missile (AAM) from a MIG-21, but managed to return to base. MIG-21s also attacked a flight of F-4s on 8 November and destroyed one with missile fire.

Hanoi's standard terms for a settlement of the war were reaffirmed by Premier Pham Van Dong at a reception on 7 November honoring the Soviet anniversary. Dong told his audience that the basis for settling the Vietnam problem is "the four points of the North Vietnamese Government and the political program of the Liberation Front, the only genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people."

Dong declared that if the US wants talks it must unconditionally halt the bombings "and all other acts of war" against North Vietnam. He did not demand, however, that a bombing halt be "definitive"—that is, permanent—as had Party First Secretary Le Duan in a speech before the Supreme Soviet on 3 November.

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